NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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MARCH 24, 2005
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NITRO UPDATE
ATCHISON COUNTY, MO., METH USER
CHARGED WITH UNLAWFUL FIREARM

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Atchison County, Mo., man was charged in federal court today with being an unlawful user of a controlled substance in possession of a firearm. Today's charge, Graves said, is the result of work completed by the NITRO Task Force.

Larry B. Deatz, 49, of Watson, Mo., was charged in a criminal complaint filed in federal court this morning in Kansas City with illegally possessing a firearm.

The criminal complaint alleges that **Deatz** was an unlawful user of methamphetamine in possession of a Heritage Rough Rider .22-caliber revolver on March 23, 2005. Under federal statutes, Graves explained, it is illegal for any unlawful user or addict of a controlled substance to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition.

According to an affidavit filed in support of the criminal complaint, law enforcement officers discovered the firearm in **Deatz's** possession during a search of his residence. The affidavit also alleges that **Deatz** was in possession of 10 grams of methamphetamine and items and precursors commonly used in manufacturing, distributing and consuming methamphetamine.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney W. Brent Powell. It was investigated by the Maryville, Mo., Department of Public Safety, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and NITRO, the Northwest Missouri Interagency Team Response Operation.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States

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